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From: Cristiano, Gina

Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 3:44:27 AM

Subject: R8 RRT 8/12 meeting notes

Hello Everyone,

Thanks to all who called in to the RRT meeting today! Here's a quick summary...

- EPA started limited flushing on an irrigation ditch north of Durango
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife placed 108, 1.5" trout in four locations on the Animas River (3 in the spill area, 1 in a control location) to determine acute effects of the mine release; there were none. They are determining need and scope for subsequent sampling (e.g. tissue sampling).
- EPA Region 8 is setting up Area Command; Regions 6 and 9 and state and local entities will also be involved.
- Governor Hickenlooper was onsite yesterday. EPA administrator Gina McCarthy was onsite today.
- Related to activities at the Gold King Mine site – Since the blowout, crews have worked to repair the road, which was washed out by the release, and they have installed four treatment ponds to treat the discharge water. Caustic and flocculant are being used for the treatment. These ponds are a short term solution; a more robust treatment set-up will be needed over winter. The flow from the adit ranges from 500-800 gpm
- Related to the activities in/around Durango –
 - EPA's ASPECT aircraft captured aerial imagery to document/track the leading edge of the plume.
 - The Animas River is one of the water sources supplying the Town of Durango, so the water treatment plant was a major concern. However alternate sources of raw water and voluntary conservation measures are protecting the water supply.
 - Some private drinking water wells near the river have been impacted; EPA is supplying bottled water to residents and for livestock. EPA has received 226 requests for well sampling; we've completed approximately 50-60 of these.
- Data results are approximately 2 days behind. EPA is trying to ensure its data gets out to state and other entities in Unified Command, even if it's preliminary data.
- Data is being evaluated relative to risk based exposures.
- The River is still closed to access, which is causing significant economic impacts. EPA has distributed claims forms for submittal. Form 95 was distributed at the most recent public meeting.

- There are many concerns about the impacts to Lake Powell and beyond. Utah DEQ Water Quality Division representatives have been collecting water samples at four locations, twice per day. Results are being posted on the UDEQ website:

<http://www.deq.utah.gov/Topics/Water/goldkingmine/index.htm>. Utah is also working with toxicologists on public health related issues. At this time the data indicates the spill “does not pose an immediate public health risk.”

- ATSDR described their consultation with San Juan County (Colorado) health department, which provided information/assessment of public health threats.

- EPA Region 9 is working closely with Arizona and USGS. Significant sampling efforts are underway; ongoing. R9 has deployed numerous assets to Durango, Farmington, NM and elsewhere to respond.

- EPA Region 6 representatives were on the call but lost signal.

- There is an EPA hotline number (toll free) 1-844-607-9700.

Thanks again, Gina

Gina Cristiano

Emergency Response & Planning Coordinator

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